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SIPS BITS

STATE INFORMATION PROCESSING SERVICES EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Volume 4 September 1988

COONLEY RECEIVES AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

SIPS' Training Director **Carol Coonley** has been honored for her outstanding skills, dedication, and commitment to public service.

State Controller Fred Talton recently announced that Coonley received the Office of State Controller Award of Excellence. Her devotion to duty and ability to establish new and outstanding methods were cited as guidelines in the selection process. Coonley was one of three OSC employees chosen for this special recognition, along with Doug Phillips and Jimmy Williams of Information Systems.

"CAROL IS AN OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE, AND AN EXAMPLE AND INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US AT SIPS."
CHARLIE WILLIAMS

"Congratulations, we are proud to have persons of your caliber in our organization," Talton said in making the announcement.

SIPS Chief Charlie Williams personally notified Carol of the honor at a surprise awards ceremony held on July 7th at SIPS.

"Carol is an outstanding employee and an example and inspiration to all of us at SIPS," Williams proudly stated.

"She has always been willing to go the extra mile in public service. Carol is richly deserving of this honor for her hard work and special skills."

Rachel Eagles, Manager of Client Support Services, recommended Carol for the award.

Eagles noted that in the fall of 1984, SIPS Training Services consisted of a trainer and two classrooms in which six

(See COONLEY, page 5)

BIG FOUR-OH BIRTHDAY/FUNERAL BASH

MID-LIFE CRAZY - It didn't take Sam Rule long to revert to his second childhood. Here, the Telecommunications Director displays the latest in children's headgear (a rubber inner tube), as Jack Sasser and Sam's wife Kay crack up, and hugs his favorite security toy (a Roadrunner stuffed animal). More on Sam's voyage onto golden pond on pages 2 & 3.

FATHER TIME CALLING: IT'S FOR YOU, SAM!

"A day that will live in infamy." How right you were **Sam Rule.** On July 14th Sam entered into that rite of passage known as old age, as our newest senior citizen turned - dare I say it - FORTY.

As Sam feebly tottered toward the SIPS building that morning, a large sign warned employees that the old boy was suffering through THE BIG FOUR-OH.

His nurse met him at the sidewalk with a wheelchair to roll him into work. After taking his pulse, she declared him legally dead.

Sam's slaves from the State Telecommunications Office were eagerly waiting at the front door en masse to observe their master's birthday/funeral bash.

The STO gang pulled out all the stops to properly observe this solemn occasion. Black was the color of the day, and flags were flown at half mast.

Camille McEachren serenaded her fallen leader with a Bach funeral Toccata played on an electric keyboard. The staff, their cubicles, and the old man's office were all draped in black. Sam's mausoleum were ceremoniously decorated with a black wreath, dead flowers ('borrowed' from a local cemetery), black balloons labeled Over the Hill, a flashing '40' sign, and a roadrunner stuffed animal wearing a camouflage T-shirt and Sam's name badge. (Sam is a First Sergeant in the Army Reserve).

As the old gentleman took in his new digs, he was speechless - a sure sign of approaching senility.

After his mid-morning nap and a glass of warm milk, Sam and the STO mourners regrouped at the Butcher Block for lunch. Sam ordered the senior citizen's special: stewed prunes, soft boiled eggs, and hot tea (to keep the juices flowing).

His staff then showered their boss with mucho cards and gifts.. Sam's wife gave her husband an athletic supporter to help 'support' him during his declining years. Other presents included a walking cane (for getting around better and for shipping his employees into line), hormone pills (to fight off those hot flashes), Grecian Formula (to cover that grey), Polident (to keep those choppers good and snug), and every senior's favorite: a large bottle of prune juice. These practical gifts are a must for every golden oldie like Sam.

After lunch, it was back to the ranch. Sam held a short staff meeting to get input on the joys of menopause.

Then following his obligatory mid-afternoon nap, his secretary Donna Pierce served up his favorite snack: pitted prunes and warm milk. Later, Sam and some of his top lieutenants toured area nursing homes and senior centers. He ended the day by having a full-blown mid-life crisis in his office.

After work, he was wheeled home for a relaxing evening with his nurse and family. Sam spent the night in his usual way: soaking his dentures, playing with his stuffed Roadrunner and rubber telephone, and listening to Guy Lombardo records. He later fell soundly asleep in front of the TV watching The Golden Girls.

Oh, I almost forgot. HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAM.

SIPS BITS

Published quarterly by
State Information
Processing Services
3700 Wake Forest Road
Raleigh, N.C. 27609-6860

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Chief of SIPS

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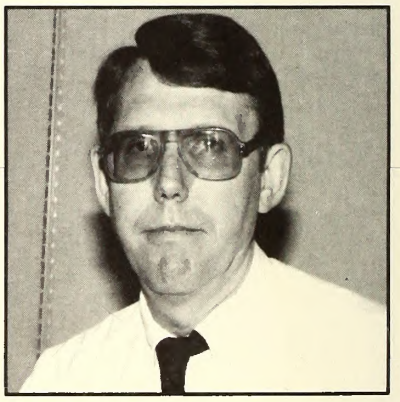
HARRIS NAMED TO HIGH LEVEL PLANNING POST



G.L. Harris

G.L. Harris has been appointed to the newly created position of Performance Monitoring and Capacity Planning Specialist. Harris, who began his duties on July 15th, is a member of Deputy Chief Dan Clark's staff.

"We are very pleased to have G.L. Harris join our SIPS team," Clark emphasized. "His skills, experience, and leadership ability in high technology will be a tremendous asset to management."

"His expertise will be especially crucial in the SIPS mainframe environment where system capacity is

(See HARRIS, page 6)

THE PHONE MAN AT THE END OF THE LINE

EXCEDRIN HEADACHE! - The birthday boy needs a wheelchair to make it to the front entrance of SIPS. He is rolled in by Kay, his wife and nurse. After taking his pulse she pronounced him 'dead on arrival.' Meanwhile, a group of mourners (Camille McEachren, Connie Burwell, and JoAnn Regan) gather at the entrance to Sam's mausoleum.

GIFTS GALORE - The Good Witch (Vickey Allen), left, presents the phone man with a bouquet of dead flowers. She also whipped up a 'youth potion' made of powdered bat wings and ground fiber optic cable. It was guaranteed to make the old boy feel like a teenager, and get great reception on his TV. Later at a special 40's luncheon, Sam licks his chops as Camille McEachren gives him his birthday present, a bottle of industrial strength prune juice.

LOST IN THE SHUFFLE

by David Tatro

Remember when, awhile ago
SIPS was based downtown?
Two, left behind that we all know,
have finally been found.

Amid the mass confusion
that comes with moving out.
These two were disillusioned,
And felt forgot about.

While we enjoyed our new domain,
and settled down to work.
They endured the dust and drain,
of the jackhammers steady perk.

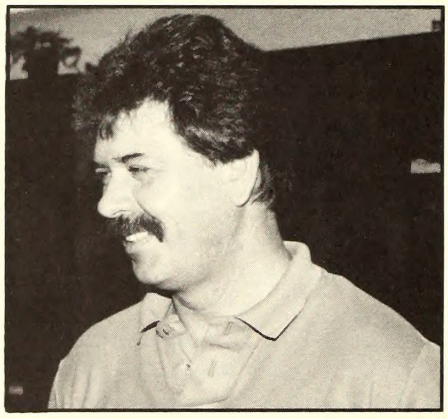
Men paraded through the halls,
Carrying out their task,
Ripping floors and moving walls,
while wearing funny masks.

Restrooms were inoperable,
And became a trip each day,
But these two remained unflappable,
despite this mad array.

Construction now has ended,
And all the rubble cleared.
Their jobs they deftly tended,
And customers endeared.

SIPS and all its paper bits,
have been represented well,
by Jean and Ellen, whose warmth and wit,
have weathered through this spell.

Editor's Note: At press time, David Tatro was a Courier at SIPS, but will be promoted to a Computer Operator position in the near future. His poem refers to the frustrations experienced by Ellen Hall and Jean McEleveen during the remodeling of SIPS Downtown Office. (See photo on page 12)



David Tatro

Fred Taggart

GOOD LUCK FRED

Our best wishes go with **Fred Taggart,** who recently accepted a new position as a Contract Programmer, specializing in FOCUS, at Burrough's Wellcome in Research Triangle Park.

During his two years of service at SIPS, Fred was a FOCUS Consultant in the Client Support Services' Information Center. Prior to that, he retired after forty-two years of service at Uniroyal Tire Company in sales, as well as data processing and programming. Fred has more than eighteen years experience in data processing.

Julian Hendricks, Manager of the Information Center, said that Fred was a pleasure to work with, and will be greatly missed.

"Fred Taggart combined advanced skills and technical expertise, with a gift for working well with people," Hendricks added.

Before leaving SIPS on August 8th, Fred was treated to a going away party at Chissolm's Restaurant by the staff of Client Support Services.

Fred said he really enjoyed the people at SIPS, and will miss directing the Christmas Choir.

Fred and his wife Paula live in West End near Pinehurst. The couple have two children and five grandchildren.

Fred's many friends at SIPS wish him a rewarding new job, and the best of everything in the future.

JACKSON HONORED FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Dean Jackson, past president of the Four Oaks Civitan Club, has been named a Distinguished President by Civitan International. The Four Oaks club has also been designated an Honor Club.

The club sponsors the summer and fall recreation program in Four Oaks, which includes boys baseball, girls softball, and a local football team. The 51 Civitan volunteers also sponsor local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops.

Civitan International is an all volunteer organization dedicated to community service, with a special emphasis on helping mentally retarded young people. In June, the club sponsored the local Special Olympic games.

Dean, an Analyst/Programmer in DMV Systems Development, is also the current President of the Johnson County Little League Associates.

COONLEY

(continued from page 1)

data processing video classes were offered each day with one to five students per class.

"Since that time the training center has developed into a multimedia facility," Eagles explained. "This is largely due to the extraordinary talents, imagination, determination, and guidance of Carol Coonley. Prior to Carol's marketing efforts, an average of 15 students a week were enrolled in training. SIPS now enrolls approximately 1,000 a month - all at rates substantially less than those that are commercially available."

She added that Coonley has developed and expanded services into a comprehensive training program to include computer-based, interactive video, video, and live instruction. The training now includes office automation, telecommunications, and management skills as well as technical data processing for information processing professionals, managers, and end-users. Training is available to state employees at SIPS, at off-site locations, and at employees own workstations throughout North Carolina via the more than 13,000 computer terminals on the state data network.

"Carol Coonley has successfully assisted more than eighty state government agencies in meeting their automation needs, and supervising the delivery of services," Eagles said. "She has also negotiated with numerous training vendors to secure the best value for the training dollar, which has resulted in major cost savings for North Carolina."

Carol Coonley began her service at SIPS in 1984. Prior to that she was the owner of Coonley Associates, a private consulting business in Raleigh, focusing mainly on the mini and micro computer fields. Carol also was employed for sixteen years by IBM in Raleigh, where she held positions as a systems engineer, marketing representative, and a senior education and development representative with IBM's advanced technical training group.

COONLEY HONORED - SIPS Chief Charlie Williams presents Training Director Carol Coonley with the Office of State Controller Award of Excellence. Carol was chosen for her devotion to duty and commitment to public service.

DAUGHTRY'S TAKE FLORIDA BY STORM

If it's Tuesday this must be Cocoa Beach! That was just one of the stops made by the Daughtry family on their 7-day whirlwind vacation in central Florida.

Wanda Daughtry, a Secretary in DMV Systems Development, along with her husband **Luther** and 7-year-old son **Jeffrey,** first visited Silver Springs in Ocala where the featured event is the world famous Glass Bottom Boat where people can view crystal clear springs. They also took the jungle cruise and visited the antique car museum.

Then it was on to Orlando's famed Sea World where they took in a fabulous water show featuring Shamu The Killer Whale, along with dolphins, walrus, a penguin natural habitat exhibit, the Aloha Village, and water skiing demonstration.

Next, they visited Busch Gardens in Tampa. There they experienced an exciting water rapids ride, variety shows, belly dancers, and the 'Dark Continent' - an African adventure.

Finally, the Daughtry's wheeled into Sabastion Inlet to do some surf fishing, and caught some sea brim.

RETIREMENT PARTY HONORS PRUITT

Margaret Pruitt, a Central Communications Operator, retired on July 29th following almost fifteen years of state service.

The Central Communications Center office party honored Margaret with a lavish smorgasboard, and many personal cards and gifts. One special present was a framed collage with a photo of each of her co-workers.

SIPS Chief Charlie Williams presented Margaret with a Certificate of Retirement from Governor Jim Martin acknowledging the state's appreciation for her many years of dedicated service.

Jack Sasser, Assistant Director of the State Telecommunications Office, and STO Secretary Donna Pierce, also stopped by to wish Margaret well.

Center Supervisor Lois Rowland cited Margaret for her excellent service, and highly skilled work in a very demanding job. Rowland also noted that she was a very dependable and loyal employee.

Margaret and her husband Charles make their home near Cary. The couple have a daughter and two grandchildren.

SPECIAL MEMORIES - Margaret Pruitt admires a special gift at her retirement party: a framed collage with a photo of each of her co-workers at the Central Communications Center.

HARRIS

(continued from page 2)

shared by many state agencies. G.L. will serve in a lead staff/managerial role on high-priority projects relating to any immediate need of the top level SIPS management."

Clark explained that Harris will be responsible for providing advanced technical analytical capability in performance monitoring and capacity planning. His duties will also include analysis of the client demand for computer services, analysis of existing capacity and efficiency of operations, cost/benefit analysis for new resources, and development of proposals for acquisition of computer resources to meet projected demand.

Prior to his appointment at SIPS, Harris was an Applications Development Manager in the N.C. Department of Public Education. He also served as Senior Systems Analyst/Team Leader, and Director of Auditing in the department. In addition, Harris was a Health Systems Engineer at Duke University Medical Center. He has a total of more than eighteen years experience in the design and implementation of computer systems. Harris' systems development experience includes the analysis, design, and implementation of on-line systems (payroll and accounting-accounts payable) using IBM's DB/DC teleprocessing software, along with supervisory responsibility for seven years.

G.L. Harris earned a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering from North Carolina State University. He and his wife Ann and their two children live in Cary.

STOVALL PROMOTED

Brenda Stovall has been promoted to the position of Data Processing Assistant in the State Data Network effective July 1st. Prior to her promotion Brenda was a Secretary for the Client Support Services Section, and the State Data Network.

In her new position, Brenda will work closely with Data Communications Manager Richard Kelly. Her responsibilities will include managing inventories, modems, DSU's, and data circuits in the network. In addition, Brenda will be in charge of ordering equipment, coordinating equipment needs with vendors, and the accountability of equipment.

Brenda has served in state government for a total of ten years.

NEW SEANC OFFICERS ELECTED

The State Employees Association of North Carolina (SEANC) held their annual meeting on June 16th at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

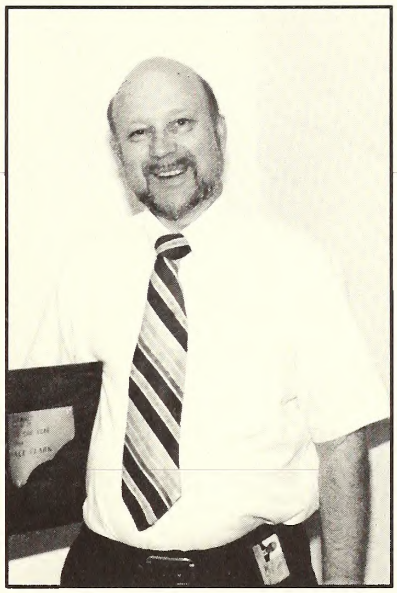
Past President Bobby Reardon thanked the members for their hard work and dedication, and pointed out some of the advantages of SEANC membership. Executive Director Butch Gunnels briefed members on key events in the General Assembly. Special guests included Senator Joe Johnson and Representative Peggy Stamey.

The members and guests were treated to a special dinner - **Dorsey Jackson's** famous barbequed chicken.

The main item on the agenda was the nomination and election of new officers for fiscal year 1988-89. **Ann Faison** was elected as the association's new Chairman. SIPS employees who will serve as officers in District 29 include **Wanda Daughtry,** Constitution Officer, and **Brenda Stovall** and **Walter Langley** were elected as delegates.

Chairman Ann Faison presented **Dale Clark** with a special plaque honoring him as the Most Outstanding Member of the Year for District 29.

A number of special discounts are now available for SEANC members, such as discount tickets for movies and theme parks like Disney World, Busch Gardens, Kings dominion, Carowinds and more. Discounts are also available for lodging at all Day's Inn Motels in the United States, food at Wendy's on Wake Forest Road in Raleigh, and treatment at the Eye Care Center in Raleigh's Tower Shopping Center on glasses and examinations. For more information please get in touch with Wanda Daughtry at extension 312.



Dale Clark - SEANC Member of the Year

PARIS IN THE SPRINGTIME

Nancy Sather Locklin's 17-year-old daughter **Alecia Godwin** got quite a graduation present, after receiving her diploma at Enloe High School in June.

Alecia was one of thousands of area teens who attended an alcohol and drug free graduation party at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The special event was sponsored by the local chapter of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers).

At the party, Alecia was one of the grand prize winners, receiving a free round trip flight to Paris, along with $1,000 in spending money.

Alecia will leave on her exciting one week trip to Paris next spring. Meanwhile, she will begin classes this fall at East Carolina University, where she will major in dance.

Alecia's proud mother is very excited about her daughter's future. Nancy Sather Locklin is a Programmer on William Rollins team in State Systems Development.

Nancy, her husband Steve Sather, and Alecia live in Raleigh.

Alecia Godwin

AN EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Congratulations to SIPS Chief **Charlie Williams** on the birth of his third grandson on July 26th at Rex Hospital in Raleigh.

Justin Thad was born to Charlie's daughter **Shelly Christmas** and her husband Thad. Justin tipped the scales at nine pounds, seven ounces, and measured twenty-two inches in height. Shelly is a state employee with the Department of Revenue.

Charlie was amazed at how much better looking Justin was than all the other babies in the hospital. He's already checking out fishing rods and reels so that Justin can be his fishing buddy at Kerr Lake.

Charlie's wife, Rose, will be caring for Justin after Shelly goes back to work.

IT'S A BOY!

Congratulations to **Jon and Donna Curry** on the birth of their baby son. Stephen Christopher was born on May 30th at Rex Hospital in Raleigh, and tipped the scales at seven pounds, fifteen ounces. He measured twenty inches high.

The couple learned the lamaze childbirth method. John assisted his wife during labor by coaching her with breathing, and being there to give support and encouragement. He also gave Stephen his first bath. John and Donna were very excited and pleased by the birth of their first child.

John is a Programmer on Doug Bailey's team in State Systems Development. The Curry's make their home in Raleigh.

WHAT FUN - Stephen Christopher buckles up for his first ride in the family car.

FANCY FOOTWORK ON THE FOURTH

Kit Brown, President of the Triangle's Single Twirlers, led his club north of the border, for the International Singles Square Dance in Windsor, Ontario over the Fourth of July weekend. Over 300 people, from clubs throughout the United States, kicked up their heels in Canada.

The event featured workshops to learn new calls and teach new dance steps. The evenings were filled with square dancing.

Kit said it was a lot of fun, and there was a lot of camaraderie in meeting new friends.

"There is no such thing as a stranger in square dancing," he added. Kit predicted that square dancing is becoming so popular, it will be America's national folk dance in the future.

On the way back home, the Twirlers had time for some sightseeing. The club visited Niagara Falls in New York, and also went through Amish country in Pennsylvania.

The Triangle area clubs use traditional western style square dancing, which is called in English, and performed all over the world.

Kit, a Programmer/Analyst on John Gribble's team in State Systems Development, goes square dancing 3-4 times a week. Why? "I've met some fantastic people, it's fun, it's good exercise, and it's an excellent release for tension."

STRICKLAND DESIGNS STO CONVENTION DISPLAY

The State Telecommunications Office was represented by a display booth at the 1988 North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Convention and Trade Show at the Holiday Inn Four Seasons in Greensboro on July 14th and 15th.

The booth was set up and manned by Telecommunications Analyst **Betty Strickland.** The purpose of the display was to inform city and county government officials that they have access to the State Telephone Network, and that using the network would result in significant cost savings.

Officials attending the convention were able to call their offices free of charge via a telephone terminal and network line that was installed in the booth. Betty also distributed information on installation costs, monthly charges, and call rates for the network.

LASSITER JOINS CLIENT SUPPORT

Karen Lassiter has been appointed as the Secretary for Client Support Services, effective August 1. As Secretary to the staff, she will have numerous administrative duties including word processing, billing, and serving as a back-up for the security guard.

Karen is a graduate of Winston-Salem State, where she earned a B.A. degree in Business Administration. Prior to coming to SIPS a year ago, she was employed as an Admissions Counselor at Rutledge Business College in Raleigh.

Karen and her husband Dana make their home in Raleigh.

WELCOME ABOARD

We are pleased to welcome to SIPS the following new employees who are all working in the State Telecommunications Office: **Landis Adams,** Telecommunications Analyst; **Dewey Bennett,** Telecommunications Analyst; and **Andrea Wright,** Accounting Clerk.

HISTORY COMES ALIVE AT GETTYSBURG

by Doug Deaton

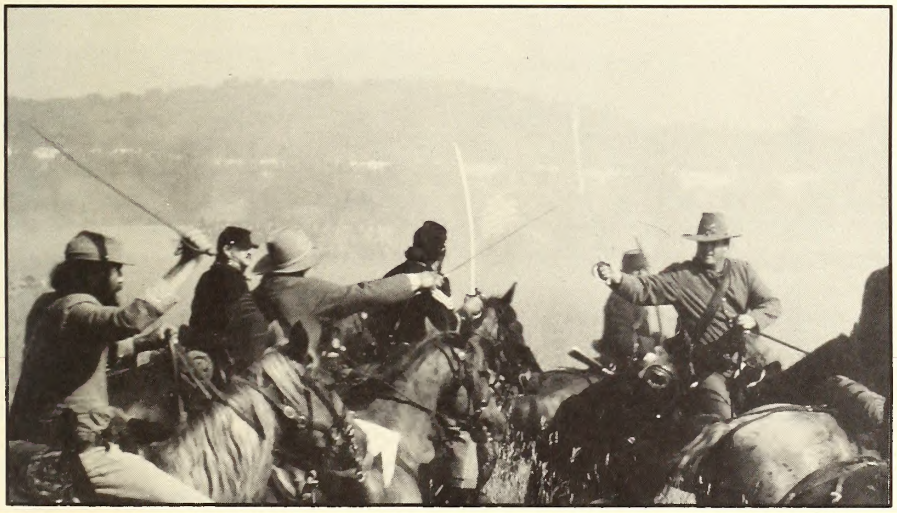
Editor's Note: Doug Deaton and his son, 12-year-old Erick, were among the quarter of a million people who witnessed the historic 3-day re-enactment of the Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania. Doug is Special Projects Coordinator in the Business Services Section.

The 125th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg was a spectacular success. More than 12,000 mock soldiers and civilians dressed in authentic period garb, took part in the re-enactment. It was the largest and most realistic event of its kind ever created.

The bloody battle was the turning point of the Civil War, while Pickett's charge was the turning point of the Battle of Gettysburg. An estimated 50,000 Union and Confederate troops were killed or wounded during the course of the battle.

I have always been very interested in history, and it was a great thrill to see living history. You felt like you were actually there, and we could sense the scale and emotions of the conflict.

I was especially intrigued by the psychology of how people reacted under the conditions of war, and the successes and failures of military conflict. All of the most powerful emotions are experienced on the battlefield - suffering, death, fear, pride, and great heroism and courage. Wars seem to bring out both the best and worst in people, and maybe that's a big part of the fascination of Gettysburg.



CALVARY FORCES BATTLE AT GETTYSBURG - A life and death calvary duel occurred behind the battle lines during Pickett's famous charge. The engagement was led by Union General George Armstrong Custer, while the Confederate soldiers were under the leadership of General Jeb Stuart. (Photo by Doug Deaton).

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY - Debra and Ricky Walker celebrated their 14th wedding anniversary on June 8th. Debra said that Ricky was a fine husband and father, and that she was thankful to have a good marriage and family. The couple were high school sweethearts.

Debra is an Administrative Secretary in Business Services, while Ricky is a Correctional Officer at Polk Youth Center. Debra and Ricky live in Raleigh with their two children, 13-year-old Ricky Jr., and 10-year-old Alecia.

WISE HEALTH TIP: HOW RISKY IS EXERCISE?

How risky is exercise? Exercise can be perfectly safe for anyone, providing you follow some simple guidelines.

1. **Start your program SLOWLY.** The body needs time to adapt to the stress of exercise. Gradually increase the **length** of time that you are exercising and the **intensity** of the exercise.

(see WISE, page 10)

GRAND SLAM - The Capital Concessions softball team pose for a team photo at SIPS. Pictured from left to right (top row) are Butch Arnold, Ronnie Murray, Bob Hill, Anthony Register, Todd Driver, and Terry Whitley; bottom row: Dean Jackson, Steve Faircloth, Terry Williams, and Brooks Holmes.

FOR SALE

Congratulations to **Sandy Sasser** for passing the North Carolina Real Estate examination on July 8th. Sandy completed a 66-hour course at Wake Technical Community College to prepare for the exam. She is now licensed to sell real estate in North Carolina under a broker's supervision.

"I worked hard to achieve one of my goals in life," Sandy said proudly. "It just goes to prove you're never too old to learn."

She is now a part-time Marketing Consultant with ERA First RealtyCorp in Raleigh, and has already attended four ERA training seminars to increase her business knowledge.

Sandy is a Secretary in State Systems Development.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Doug and Belinda Haynes celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary on July 15 by spending a relaxing weekend at the Marriott in Raleigh. The special outing, complete with champagne and excellent food, was a gift from their son Jim. Doug said that he and his wife really had a ball getting away, and were able to unwind and recharge their batteries. It was also enjoyable for the couple to spend quiet time alone, reminisce, and have long talks. Doug is a Senior Systems Analyst in DMV Systems Development, and has twenty years of state service.

SIPS SCORES IN SOFTBALL TOURNEY

The Capital Concession, a team made up of SIPS players, finished a respectable fourth in the Industrial A District 18 mens softball tournament. The action took place at Carolina Pines in Raleigh the week of July 21st.

"The guys really did a fantastic job," Coach Butch Arnold proudly noted. "We had 7 new players, and only 3 practices before the tournament. Even so, we beat Square D, a team rated twentieth in the nation. All in all, it was a great team effort."

The Capital Concession was sponsored by Gene and Henry Murray. Butch Arnold and Walter Langley shared the coaching duties.

The SIPS team was composed of the following players: **Walter Langley, Butch Arnold, Dean Jackson, Terry Whitley, Terry Williams, Brooks Holmes, Steve Faircloth, Maynard Clark, Mike Finnerty, Anthony Register, Ronnie Murray, Dave Woodall, Bob Hill, Todd Driver,** and **Lee Churn.**

WISE

(continued from page 9)

2. **Select an activity that is appropriate for you.** For example, if you have orthopedic problems, jogging or aerobic exercise may not be the best activity for you to become involved in. Stationary biking, cycling, or swimming may be more appropriate for you. KNOW YOUR OWN LIMITATIONS.
3. **Warm-up before vigorous exercise.** Warm-up should stimulate the activity that you will be performing. If you are biking, pedal slowly with little resistance, until you feel yourself start to sweat. If you are walking, start at a slow pace for 3-4 minutes and then start walking briskly. If you are running, start at a slow jog for 3-4 minutes and then pick up your pace.
4. **Wear the appropriate footwear.**

USING THE TELEPHONE CORRECTLY

SIPS Chief Charlie Williams would like to remind all employees again about the importance of properly using the telephone. Correct dialing is not only state policy, it also saves money.

Williams emphasizes that long distance calls are allowed only for official state business, and that personal long distance calls should not be charged to the state. In addition, some employees are improperly dialing toll-free numbers which results in SIPS being billed for these "free" calls.

If it is necessary to make a personal long distance call, dial "9" "9" to get an outside dial tone, but remember that personal long distance calls may not be billed to SIPS or to the state.

All SIPS employees can receive personal telephone training, as well as written instructions on the proper use of the telephone system by calling the State Telecommunications Office at extension 215. All requests for telephone service or equipment needs should be made in writing. Emergency requests, such as instruments or lines which are not operating properly, should be made by calling the Telecommunications Office.

A summary of proper telephone procedures is contained in the SIPS Employee Information Handbook.

THE CUTTING EDGE - Birthday girl Wanda Daughtry gets ready to cut an ice cream cake at an office party in her honor on July 15th. The gang in DMV/Systems Development got together to celebrate. Later, Wanda's husband Luther surprised her with a birthday bouquet of flowers and balloons, while her son Jeffrey gave Mom a calendar doll to add to her collection. Wanda says she's "29 and holding."

MYSTERY LADY – GUESS WHO?

Hint: This beautiful baby is now 25, and part of a high-tech mother/daughter team. Knicknamed "Dobble", she l;ikes cross stitching, and is busy decorating her new home. Her boyfriend is a 'Yankee hulk' from Pennsylvania. (Answer on page 12).

WALKING IN STYLE

Dean Jones is the lucky owner of a new pair of Reebok walking shoes. Dean won the sporty footwear in a special drawing held by the WISE Century Walking Club. State employees who registered for the one mile fun walk at the 1988 WISE Festival were eligible for the free drawing. Two winners were chosen. Dean, a Programmer III in State Systems Development, called the Reeboks "first class shoes."

The Century Walking Club is a fitness program designed to recognize state employees who walk 100 miles during a one year period. Nineteen

(see WALKING, page 12)

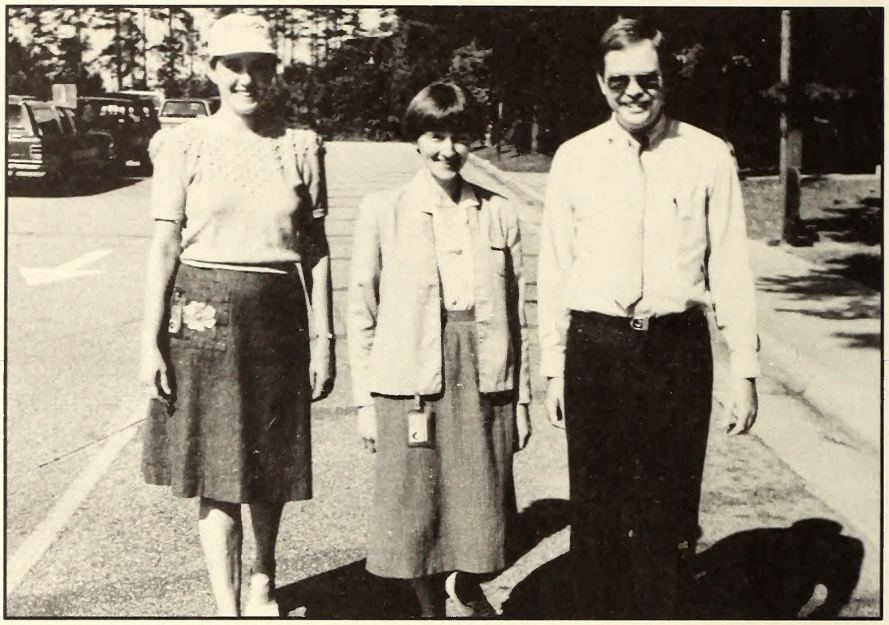
WALKING

(continued from page 11)

SIPS employees are members of the club. Reebok International and Durham Sporting Goods are official sponsors of the Century Walking Club.

The first 500 state employees to complete 100 miles will win a free Century Walking Club T-Shirt.

If you would like to take part in the Century Walking Club, official mileage logs are available to keep track of your progress. To receive your mileage log, contact Chuck mcLendon at extension 365.



STEPPING OUT - Three SIPS members of the Century Walking Club prepare for a morning jaunt: Rebekah Beeker (left), Nancy Sather Locklin, and Dean Jones.

MYSTERY LADY

**(Answer:
Ann Claire Roberson)**

HOME SWEET HOME - Jean McElveen helps a client in SIPS Downtown Office. Jean and co-worker Ellen Hall are happily settled into their new office in the Administration Building following two long years of remodeling on the ground floor. The loud and distracting construction work was a hardship, but the ladies and their clients endured. Ellen and Jean are Data Processing Assistants. They handle requests for computer printouts, and user supplied tapes for batch jobs. (see poem on page 4).

A DECADE OF GOOD IDEAS

If you have a suggestion for improving operations and services at SIPS or other agencies, please share it with the "Brainstorm" North Carolina State Employee Suggestion System. By capitalizing on your good ideas, you could receive a cash award of up to $5,000, free annual leave, or a certificate of appreciation.

Since 1975, the Employee Suggestion System has received over 5,500 suggestions from state government employees. These innovative ideas have saved North Carolina $3.1 million. The award winners received more than $158,000 in cash, and 240 extra days off.

For more information, contact your SIPS supervisor, or write to the N.C. State Employee Suggestion System, N.C. Department of Administration, 116 West Jones Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.